Docket No.: 113918.101

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

REID et al.

Serial No.

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

Examiner:

For: HUMAN LIVER PROGENITORS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title please insert:

--Related Applications

This application claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/116,331, filed January 19, 1999, which is incorporated herein by reference.--

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Amendment, or credit any overpayment to deposit account no. 50-0436.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition

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for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to deposit account no. 50-0436.

Respectfully Submitted,

PEPPER HAMILTON LLP

Gilberto M. Villacorta, Ph.D. Registration No. 34,038

by Corinne M. Pouliquen Registration No. 35,753

Hamilton Square 600 Fourteenth Street Washington, DC 20005 202.220.1200 GMV:CMP:lrr Date: January 19, 2000

Date: January 19, 2000 Facsimile: 202-220-1665 DC: #138856 v1 (2254011.WPD)